

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

**SESSION LAW 2007-533
HOUSE BILL 433**

AN ACT TO ADOPT THE LEXINGTON BARBECUE FESTIVAL AS THE
OFFICIAL FOOD FESTIVAL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA PIEDMONT
TRIAD.

Whereas, the first barbecue restaurant opened in the Town of Lexington in 1919; and

Whereas, Lexington has become well known for its barbecue and has been referred to as the Barbecue Capital of the World; and

Whereas, since 1984, Lexington has held an annual Barbecue Festival; and

Whereas, the Lexington Barbecue Festival has become one of the most popular food festivals in the country; and

Whereas, at the Lexington Barbecue Festival more than 150,000 visitors enjoy delicious food as well as a number of rides, games, and regional music; and

Whereas, during the Lexington Barbecue Festival, civic and nonprofit organizations sponsor events and sell goods to raise funds and present educational information to the public, and a number of local artists showcase and sell their crafts; and

Whereas, the Lexington Barbecue Festival was named "One of the Top Ten Food Festivals in the Country" by Travel and Leisure Magazine and a "Top 20 Event for the Month of October 2002" by the Southeast Tourism Society; and

Whereas, the Piedmont Triad Region of the State of North Carolina does not have an official food festival; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 145-27. State food festival.

The Lexington Barbecue Festival is adopted as the official food festival of the Piedmont Triad Region of the State of North Carolina."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 2nd day of August, 2007.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue
President of the Senate

s/ Joe Hackney
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley
Governor

Approved 9:25 p.m. this 31st day of August, 2007